**Amjad Al Jaffer**

**English 2010**

**Prof Tim**

**4th October 2013**

**Usefulness of Solar Power**

Our world is facing an energy crisis due to the fact that the fossil fuel is non-renewable and not clean source of energy. The way, people are burning fossil fuels, very soon a situation will come when the whole world will be devoid of any kind of energy, which means that the whole world will be at standstill and will revert back to stone ages because without any kind of energy, people will not be able to enjoy the facilities generated by different technologies. It is high time that the countries around the world should start finding alternate ways to generate energy. Although most of the countries have now started using the solar power as a secondary source for energy yet they should use it as a primary source. It may be true that solar power depends on the weather condition, generates a small amount of electricity, and uses very expensive materials to make the solar panels; nevertheless, solar power is safe, cheap, renewable and sustainable, energy efficient, and environmentally friendly.

#### Solar energy is still not very much popular among masses. The reason behind this is that people have a notion that the solar power depends on the weather condition. It may be true; however there are some other tremendous positive points about solar power. We all know that solar power is energy efficient due to the reason that the energy comes from the sun and a renewable source of energy, and solar cells can store the energy inside them. “Moreover, there are varieties of technologies that have been developed to take advantage of solar energy. These include photovoltaic systems (Producing electricity directly from sunlight), solar hot water (Heating water with solar energy), solar electricity (using the sun's heat to produce electricity), [passive solar heating and day lighting](http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/tech/solarpassive;jsessionid=2468CD3583211E94D3564C832703087F) (Using solar energy to heat and light buildings) and [Solar Process Space Heating and Cooling](http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/tech/solarprocessheat;jsessionid=2468CD3583211E94D3564C832703087F) (Industrial and commercial uses of the sun's heat)” (Types of Solar Energy). So, there is much more than what we usually conceive and do with a kind of energy as solar energy is much more capable of doing what we present doing or exploiting with it. Thus we can do wonder if we spend a bit extra in solar panels and batteries.

Everybody agrees that solar power is better for the environment. However they also say that in case of producing electricity, it is an expensive option and there are much more economical options available. They also say that these economical options are good regarding environment too. For example, nuclear power as in many of the countries, nuclear power has been used for the last few decades because it is considered economical as well as less polluting means of producing electricity. However, currently as per latest technological development, solar power has become the more economical option of producing electricity. As per a new study, “Solar power may be more cost efficient than nuclear power. With costs dropping on the production of photovoltaic cells, and with solar cells becoming increasingly efficient, it appears that -- in North Carolina at least -- solar installations offer a viable alternative to nuclear power, which is the source for about 20% of the electricity in the U.S” (Marquit). So, now after this latest technological development, countries should opt for solar power instead of nuclear power as it is less polluting as well as economical too.

We all know that expensive materials are used to make the solar panels. That’s why they are quiet expensive. However, it is safe because it doesn’t use any chemicals that might make explosions. It is absolutely the fact that producing solar power does not need any kind of energy, which may be dangerous for environment as well as for people. Moreover, it is not only the best option for people who are stationed at remote places on earth but also in space too. “Solar energy is lauded as an inexhaustible fuel source that is pollution and often noise free. The technology is also versatile. For example, solar cells generate energy for far-out places like satellites in Earth orbit and cabins deep in the Rocky Mountains as easily as they can power downtown buildings and futuristic cars” (National Geographic).

My perspective is very much clear with respect to the consumption of energy in today’s world. We have to shun fossil fuels fast otherwise our life will be doomed by the ever-increasing pollution and its vicious aftermath, which is global warming. Environmental experts have rated global warming as the potentially most dangerous environmental problem; the mankind is facing with consequences second only to nuclear war. Global warming has occurred in both the northern and southern hemispheres, and over the oceans. Both the poles have started showing the effect as glaciers have started melting. Not only poles, local climate conditions will also be affected, which will ultimately affect trees, crops and fresh water .It will ultimately lead to debacle of the ecosystems. Right now the change in sea ice near Scandinavian countries is not much, yet it is alarming and curtain raiser of a much significant impact. Unfortunately environmentalists all over the world are unable to ascertain till date that how much will be the impact and how it will be distributed? However, some of the places of the world have already been affected badly by this. Thus at present, we have to find out a viable option, which would provide us our required quantum of energy and it should not harmful to the environment too. At this juncture, harnessing of solar energy is the only option left to people and they should do it fast and in a more earnest manner.

Thus, solar power is one of the best energy sources because it’s safe, clean, economical, renewable & sustainable, energy efficient and environmentally friendly too. On the other hand, it generates a small amount of electricity and it mainly depends on the weather condition that’s why the debate is still going about using solar power or any other sources. In my opinion, I think that all the countries should use the solar power as the primary energy source due to the fact that it is energy efficient, environmentally friendly and the best answer to fossil fuels. The optimum utilization of solar energy is to consume and conserve during the sunny days so that we can enjoy its use in cloudy days and during nights as well.

**Work Cited**

# Marquit. Miranda. Is solar power cheaper than nuclear power?. *Energy & Green Tech*. 9 Aug. 2012. Web 29 Nov. 2012. <http://phys.org/news200578033.html>

# Solar Energy. National Geographic. 2012. Web. 29 Nov. 2012.< <http://environment.nationalgeographic.co.in/environment/global-warming/solar-power-profile/>>

Types of Solar energy. Renewable Energy. 2012. Web. 29 Nov. 2012. < <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/tech/solar-energy>>